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JAPANESE PATENT OFFICE

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(21)Application number: **08094120**(71)Applicant: **CANON INC**(22)Date of filing: **16.04.1996**(72)Inventor: **YANAGAWA KATSUHIKO****(54) IMAGE FORMING METHOD AND ITS APPARATUS**

(57)Abstract:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To adjust a toner saving rate by simple constitution by generating (n) types of mask data by a mask-operating video signal with each of n-th mask data and parallel-serial-converting the mask data.

SOLUTION: A video signal 112 which was synchronized with the basic video clock of a four-fold video clock 111 and inputted into AND gates 103-106 is processed to obtain a logical product with mask data 113 of a set toner saving rate. The video clock 111 is counted by a counter 101, the bit 0 and bit 1 of the counter output are processed by the AND gate 102 to obtain a logical product, and logic '1' is outputted at a time to four clocks to generate a load signal 114. By a parallel serial converter 107, with timing to make the load signal 114 active, each output signal 4 of the gates 103-106 is loaded, a parallel input value is converted into a serial value synchronously with the four fold video clock 111 to be outputted as a mask video signal 115.

